

TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, WARREN COUNTY

Green Team Minutes

December 11, 2014

The Green Team meeting was held this date at the Mansfield Township Municipal Building, 100 Port Murray Road, Port Murray, N.J. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Present : Jennifer Keggan, Dawn Smith, and JoAnn Fascenelli

Absent : Connie Andershonis, Michael Misertino, and Robert Jewell

Also Present: Ruth Pante', Elaine Drazek, and Jim McMekin (Environmental Commission)

Leigh Raffaele (Township Resident)

Dan Ross (NJ Watershed Ambassador)

Rain Barrel Workshop: The last workshop was held at the Mansfield Township Fire Department on November 16, 2014. Not everyone that was registered was able to attend the workshop so four (4) barrels are being stored at the Municipal Building. Mrs. Fascenelli will make arrangements for the applicable parties to pick up their barrels. The hall rental fee was \$ 300.00 and there were misc. charges for refreshments. The Green Team provided a brief synopsis to Mr. Ross regarding the rain barrel workshops and educational presentations and handouts that were made available during the workshops. Mrs. Fascenelli advised there is a small balance in the grant and Mrs. Andershonis is investigating how this money can be spent. The final report for the grant is due March 31, 2015.

Prescription Drug Safety & Disposal: Mrs. Smith stated the Police Chief is checking into having a container available at the Police Department year round. Once that is established we can start to advertise the hours when residents can bring their prescriptions in.

Reusable Bag Education Program: Mrs. Fascenelli requested that everyone start to compile a listing of stores that offer reusable bags in the Township. A total of 100 bags were given to Dove Environmental for handouts at their presentation at the Mansfield Elementary School.

Feral Cats: Mrs. Fascenelli reminded the members about the large population of feral cats in the apartment complexes. The Green Team will investigate this further.

Community Garden: The Green Team will continue to research this action item.

Backyard Composting Workshop: Mrs. Fascenelli has a possible candidate to host a backyard composting workshop and will advise at the next meeting if arrangements can be made.

Support Local Businesses: Ms. Keggan will work on updating this listing.

Carbon Footprint: Ms. Keggan will continue to input information for this action item.

Materials Reuse Program: Mrs. Fascenelli spoke with the Township Committee on November 24, 2014 regarding the Green Team hosting a town-wide garage sale and utilizing the park for residents to have tables there rather than at their homes. The Committee had no objections to the Green Team moving forward with this project.

NJ Watershed Ambassador: Mr. Ross explained that the Watershed Ambassadors Program is a community-oriented AmeriCorps program designed to raise awareness about water issues in New Jersey. AmeriCorps is a national service initiative. Members are placed at local host sites in twenty (20) Watershed Management Areas. Watershed Ambassadors are available to make free environmental education presentations to community organizations and schools. Subject matter can include picking up after pets, conserving water, installing rain gardens, or volunteering for a stream cleanup. Mr. Ross also provided information on WET (Water Education for Teachers). The Green Team thanked Mr. Ross for attending the Green Team meeting.

2015 Meeting Dates:

MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP GREEN TEAM MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2015

SECOND THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 7:30 P.M.

MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING

January 08, 2015	July 9, 2015
February 12, 2015	August 13, 2015
March 12, 2015	September 10, 2015
April 9, 2015	October 08, 2015
May 14, 2015	November 12, 2015
June 11, 2015	December 10, 2015

Next Green Team Meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building.

Respectfully Submitted,

JoAnn Fascenelli